Alfaro Patent 6,296,343 filed 21 October 1996 entitled EDGE ENHANCEMENT DEPLETION

TECHNIQUE FOR OVER-SIZED INK DROPS TO ACHIEVE HIGH RESOLUTION X/Y

AXES ADDRESSABILITY IN INKJET PRINTING.

Page 4, fourth paragraph, please delete the last sentence which refers to the Alfaro Patent

6,296,343. Also change the figure reference in line 3 to "Fig. 4A". The corrected paragraph is

set forth below:

– The present systems and methods may be accomplished in the steps illustrated in Figs

4 and 5. As shown in Fig. 5, the present systems and methods may be accomplished in three

sequential steps 200, 202, 204. First, as shown in Fig. 4A the A x B bitmap is processed by a

narrowing process step 200 which in the exemplary embodiment comprises detecting the vertical

edges (50), and then shifting one pixel distance to the left each right edge pixel which is not also

a left edge pixel (52). –

Page 6, second full paragraph, please delete the reference in the parenthesis "(for example

see Towery et al. U.S. Patent 5,574,832) ". The corrected paragraph is set forth below:

– The final step as shown in Fig. 4C is a horizontal depletion step 204. This horizontal

depletion step 204 is the same as some horizontal depletion methods described earlier except that

the depletion is applied as a final step after the three row's logical operation step 202, and only in

the horizontal direction, that is, only in the carriage scan axis and not in the media advance axis.

The horizontal depletion 204 saves each vertical left edge pixel (step 70), depletes alternate

interior pixels (step 72) and also preserves both the right and left horizontal edges 74, 76 and the

vertical edges. –

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A technique for bilevel printing of [a] <u>an image or</u> figure comprising:

providing an inkjet printhead having a nozzle pitch of a first resolution;

creating a higher resolution bitmap which resolution is greater than the first resolution;

<u>eliminating alternate pixel rows from the higher resolution bitmap thereby</u> converting the higher resolution bitmat for printing onto an asymmetrical pixel grid having the first resolution in one axis and the higher resolution in a second axis, wherein said converting includes applying a depletion pattern only in the axis of higher resolution.

2. (Amended) The technique of claim 1 wherein said converting includes applying a narrowing [pattern] <u>process</u> only in the axis of higher resolution <u>while preserving any vertical edge pixels of the figure</u>.

3. (Amended) The technique of claim 1 wherein said converting includes applying a logical operation on certain rows of the higher resolution bitmap to determine whether or not to [print] <u>preserve</u> any <u>"on"</u> pixels which are <u>in the eliminated alternate pixel rows</u> [un-preserved] as a result of printing onto the asymmetrical pixel grid.

4. (Amended) The technique of claim 3 wherein said applying includes applying a logical operation on <u>one of the eliminated alternate pixel rows and its two</u> [three] adjacent rows of the [highter] <u>higher</u> resolution bitmat.

5. (New) The technique of claim 1 wherein said first resolution is approximately 600 dpi.

6. (New) The technique of claim 5 wherein said asymmetrical pixel grid is approximately 600 dpi in the media advance axis and approximately 1200 dpi in the carriage scan axis.